

TOWN OF ACTON
SIDEWALK COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes of Apr 11, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Acton Memorial Library Conference Room

Present: Bettina Abe, Kate Chung, Dana Snyder-Grant, Pam Cochrane, Steve Evans, Dick Calandrella, Sytske Campbell. Selectman John Sonner.

Citizen Concerns:

Jim and Elaine Jermantowicz regarding High Street. Alerted us to the existing Bridle Path.

Procedural Matters:

The March 2012 minutes were approved.

• Update from Engineering

Great Road (Main St to Davis Road) – Piece to east of Rt 27, Mass DOT person has been very helpful. He just sent plans for prefab bridge piece from another project to Stamski & McNarry to incorporate in sidewalk design. Need to design footings for extension too. Once all is designed then still need state permit, conservation commission approval, etc. Best case scenario would be this fall **IF** everything fell into place.

Great Road (Main St to Woodvale Condos) – No new news from Pulte (of Quail Ridge) and their road plans. This sidewalk is related to this progress. (From last month: Pulte Homes is working with the MassDOT to propose some modifications to this section of Great Road at Skyline Drive. Engineering asked them to incorporate the sidewalk design into their plans to ensure the sidewalk will still be feasible. Pulte is working through this process with the State.)

High Street (#77 to Parker) – Engineering has not heard from any more property owners with concerns. They are considering working on one piece of High St first, from Parker St to #176. This is pretty much where Bridle Path runs and is relatively straightforward. They have a conceptual design of street done. **IF** everything went well, Fall would be earliest they could think about construction.

Taylor Road and Minot Ave – Survey done, working on design this spring. Need easements from everyone, so this would be next step. Engineering not sure when they will be ready to do this.

► Leslie please get clarification on why do we need easements from EVERYONE, or can move forward in (3) sections without getting all easements.

Martin Street (Central St to RR Tracks) – Last property owner just signed consent this week! Good to go. Will be spring construction, done ‘in house.’(by Acton highway department, not contracted).

Summer Street (Central St to Willow St & at Ethan Allen Drive) – Piece closer to Boxboro will be done first. There are some issues Corey is talking to owners about regarding tree removal, hedge removal, etc. But probably no easements needed so it will be easier to work out. There are 4 homes in this section plus they may do piece in Boxboro to Food Pantry. Tree removal needs a crane so they will probably wait until school is over (need to close road). Hope to do this piece in summer. Probably by town of Acton, not contracted.

Summer St, near Central - This is a more difficult piece, 2 home owners closest to Central St have objections, Engineering is working on this. This part will not be done as quickly.

Misc

Corey is working with Town Counsel on easement process. Banks are being extremely difficult in allowing new easements. This is after sidewalks are already constructed. They are still working on getting easement approval on 4-5 houses on Prospect St.

- **Constructions of Shovel-Ready Sidewalks by Highway Dept.**

We got a list of sidewalks (Sidewalk new/repair list 2012) from Russell Robinson, in response to: Highway Department (Russell Robinson) could have constructed some sidewalks, but would not move them out of priority order. Bettina has discussed with Corey York, engineering. Dick has discussed them with Russell Robinson and Corey York (Engineering) and Steve Barrett (Finance).

We need clarification of Pope Road and Route 2A Iris Court to Keefe Rd. Shovel ready or not? ► Dick will ask Russell Robinson tomorrow. Motion made and seconded: The Sidewalk Committee recommends that the Highway department should implement the Pope Road and Route 2A Iris Court to Keefe Rd. If not impacting time or money that would be spent on other prioritized sidewalks. Withdrawn. Motion made and seconded: The Sidewalk Committee recommends that the Highway department should implement the Pope Road and Route 2A Iris Court to Keefe Rd projects if not impacting time or money that would be spent on prioritized sidewalks. 4 Aye, 1 Nay, motion passed. ► Steve will communicate this to Highway Department (Russell Robinson) in writing. (done).

- **VCC / 2012 Committee Re-appointments**

June 2012 reappointments due – Pam and Dana and Leslie. Pam and Dana: yes.

- **Safe Routes – Sytske**

Moved to next month.

- **MAPC Study of train station traffic (summary)**

Pam attended meeting. Discussions Maple St dropoff and pickup, Lighting, parking, parking fees. Maple St has been prioritized to Tier 2. Where will crosswalks be on Maple St near Route 27.

- **Tier 2 sidewalk priority recommendations to BoS**

This has been emailed to John, who has communicated this to the entire Board of Selectmen.

- **Application for Central Street P.C.R.C Special Permit (Behind 12 Summer Street).**

No sidewalk impact. Should every construction permit need review by the SC even if there is no apparent sidewalk involved, since we may want to ask for donation to the sidewalk fund in lieu of construction of sidewalks? Generally yes, err in favor of review instead of not reviewing.

- **Wording on Sidewalk Rating sheet**

Shelf to next month.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully, Steve Evans

Open Meeting law requires that the following must be included in the minutes:

- ✓ Date, place, time and matters discussed.
- ✓ Summaries of discussions
- ✓ List of documents used
- ✓ Decisions made
- ✓ Actions taken
- ✓ Record of all votes (yeas, nays and abstentions).
- ✓ A list of all documents and other exhibits, such as photographs, recordings, maps and presentations used by the body at the open or executive session.

Future Meetings Planned: (All at 7pm at the Acton Memorial Library Conference Room, on the second Wednesday of the month)

2012: **May 9** June 13 July 11 Aug 8 Sep 12 Oct 10 Nov 14 Dec 12